



**LINCOLN**  
UNIVERSITY  
TE WHARE WĀNAKA O AORAKI

# LINCOLN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 2 December 2025 at 9:00am in Memorial Hall, Lincoln University and online via MS Teams

## Meeting Minutes

Present: Bruce Gemmell, Michelle Ash, Janice Fredric, Prof. Derrick Moot, Liz Hill-Taiaroa, Gabrielle Thompson, David Jensen, and Puamiria Parata-Goodall, James Parsons, Liz Hill-Taiaroa (each a Council Member).

Via MS Teams: Prof. Grant Edwards, Dr Marjan van den Belt, Zara Weissenstein, Halle Gravatt (Te Awhioraki Tumuaki, via MS Teams)

In attendance: Susie Roulston (Chief Operating Officer)  
Nathaniel Heslop (Council Secretary)  
Prof Chad Hewitt (Provost)  
Prof. Merata Kawharu (DVC, Māori)  
Karen McEwan (Executive Director, People, Culture & Wellbeing via MS Teams)  
Grant Miller (incoming Council member)  
Damian Lodge (DVC Student Life)  
Megan Clayton (Director, Pathways & Quality)  
Tim Lester (General Counsel)

Apologies: David Jensen for lateness & Prof Grant Edwards for early departure

*Meeting started at 9:00am.*

### 1. Welcome/Karakia/Apologies

The Chancellor welcomed Councillors to the meeting, especially incoming Councillor Grant Miller who is attending as an observer and will commence his term on 1 January 2026.

The Chancellor invited the Pro-Chancellor to open the meeting with karakia.

### RESOLUTION

That Council:

*Resolution*

1. Receive an apology for lateness from David Jensen and an apology for early departure from Prof. Grant Edwards.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### 2. Disclosures of interests

The Register of Interests was NOTED.

### 3. Confirmation of the Previous Meeting Minutes

Council RESOLVED:

To confirm the minutes from the Council meetings held on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2025 as a true and correct record with a minor correction to attendance.

*Resolution*

**MOTION CARRIED**

### 4. Matters arising from the Minutes

The action register was NOTED.

### 5. Notice of items of General Business

There were no items of general business

### 6. Vice Chancellors Report

The report was taken as read. The Vice-Chancellor updated Council that:

- A new national IP policy grants researchers first rights to commercialize inventions. The University General Counsel is looking at the implications and a report will be presented to Council on how the University will address the IP Policy change, which comes into effect 1 July 2026.
- State of the Land project delivered 21 events, attracting 1,560 attendees over 2025; a new Bioeconomy series is planned for 2026.
- Children's University celebrated 5,000 graduate milestone.
- The library will provide detailed guidance to staff and students on the availability of journal/database access while the Council of Australasian University Librarians continue to negotiate with academic publishers.

*Action: Vice Chancellor*

The Chancellor asked the Council Secretary to write to Prof. Philip Hulme on receiving a Marsden grant for predicting exotic weeds.

*Action: Council Secretary*

#### **Resolution**

That Council:

1. **RECEIVE** the information in the Vice Chancellor's Report.

*Resolution*

**MOTION CARRIED**

### 7. LUSA Report

The LUSA President informed Council:

- The 2026-2030 LUSA Strategic Plan has been approved
- Student elections resulted in a 22.14% turnout (up from 12% in 2024)
- The Garden Party event was successful with positive community feedback

received.

- LUSA attended the Euroleague Student Scientific Conference in Sweden, gaining insights into international student governance and building global connections.

Council requested a detailed report in February 2026 on the LUSA Strategic Plan and governance of LUSA

*Action: LUSA  
President*

### **Resolution**

That Council:

1. **RECEIVE** the information in the LUSA's Report.

*Resolution*

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **8. Academic Board Report**

The Director of Academic Quality & Pathways presented the report to Council where it was noted:

- The implementation of the Lincoln Learning Model “Whenua ki te Whenua” which defines Lincoln’s distinctive educational approach
- The Academic Board endorsed offshore delivery of Master of Commerce (Agricultural) with Yunnan Agricultural University, subject to business case being approved by Council.

### **Resolution**

That Council:

1. **RECEIVE** the information in the Academic Board Report.
2. **APPROVE** the recommendation for academic regalia for the Master of Environment and Agriculture and undergraduate gowns.
3. **NOTES** the 2025 Summary of Approvals through Academic Board outlined in Appendix 3.

*Resolution*

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **9. Freedom of Expression Statement**

The report was taken as read. The General Counsel informed Council of the consultation process and changes to the Freedom of Expression statement contained within the policy. The annual reporting and survey obligations will be implemented as business-as-usual and a complains procedure established and socialised internally amongst University staff.

### **Resolution**

That Council:

1. **RECEIVE** the information in this report.
2. **NOTES** the consultation completed on the draft policy and statement.

3. **APPROVES** the post consultation Freedom of Expression Policy.
4. **NOTES** the freedom of expression and academic freedom *survey* that is to be undertaken annually, with reporting to be included in the University's annual report.
5. **NOTES** that freedom of expression and academic complaint data will be captured annually, with reporting to be included in the University's annual report.

*Resolution*

### **MOTION CARRIED**

#### **10. Council Appeals Committee Terms of Reference**

The report was taken as read. Council asked that changes be made to the Committee membership and this Policy brought back to Council in Q1 2026.

**Action: Council Secretary**

#### **11. Draft Letter of Expectation to Lincoln Agritech Limited**

The report was taken as read and clarified that Lincoln Agritech will present a dashboard report quarterly, but the CEO will only appear twice.

### **RESOLUTION**

That Council:

1. **RECEIVE** the information in this report.
2. **APPROVE** the Lincoln University Council Letter of Expectation 2026 in the form outlined in Appendix A, be sent to the board of Lincoln Agritech Limited subject to any adjustments because of feedback from Council.
3. **DELEGATE AUTHORITY** to the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, and Chair of Audit, Risk, & Assurance to incorporate any feedback from Council into the Letter of Expectation.

*Resolution*

### **MOTION CARRIED**

#### **12. Appoint Co-deputies of Human Ethics Committee**

The report was taken as read.

### **RESOLUTION**

That Council:

1. **NOTE** the Vice Chancellor's recommendation that Harley Ogier and Paula Arbouw be appointed as deputy co-chairs of the LUHEC.
2. **APPOINT** Harley Ogier and Paula Arbouw as the deputy co-chairs of the LUHEC for a 3-year term with effect from 15th January 2026.

*Resolution*

## MOTION CARRIED

### 13. Seismic Policy & Seismic Guidelines

The report was taken as read and approved with a minor amendment to wording.

#### RESOLUTION

That Council:

*Resolution*

1. **APPROVE** the proposed amendments to the Seismic Policy and Seismic Guidelines.

## MOTION CARRIED

### 14. Conferral of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates

#### RESOLUTION

That Council:

*Resolution*

1. **APPROVE** the awards outlined in the Conferral of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates Report.

## MOTION CARRIED

### 15. General Business

There were no items of General Business.

### 16. Motion by the Chancellor for Resolution to Exclude the Public Pursuant to s48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

*I move that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:*

<i>General Subject Matter</i>	<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Grounds under section</i>
Biocompliance Report	To protect the safety of persons To protect information which is the subject of an obligation of confidence	6(d) s7(2)(c)(i)/(ii)
Health & Safety Report	To protect the privacy of natural persons To avoid prejudice to measures protecting the health or safety of members of the public To protect information where making available the information would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the person who is subject of the information	7(2)(a) 7(2)(d) 7(2)(b)(ii)
S2 & Summer School Recruitment Report	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University	7(2)(h)
International Enrolment Growth Plan 2026-2030	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University	7(2)(h)
Strategy Update	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University	7(2)(h)
Ahumairaki Committee 1. Report – business of Committee	To protect the privacy of natural persons To prevent the disclosure of use of official	7(2)(a) 7(2)(j)

*Resolution*

2. Minutes from meeting on 24 September 2025 3. Lincoln University Kaupapa Māori Initiatives 4. Manaaki Tauira PSR 5. Education Performance Indicators (EPI) Report	information for improper gain or improper advantage	
<b>Ahumairaki Committee</b> 1. Report – business of Committee 2. Minutes from meeting on 12 November 2025 3. Lincoln University Kaupapa Māori Initiatives 4. Manaaki Tauira PSR	To protect the privacy of natural persons To prevent the disclosure of use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	7(2)(a) 7(2)(j)
<b>Audit, Risk &amp; Assurance Committee</b> 1. Report – business of Committee 2. Minutes from meeting on 18 November 2025 3. 2026 Budget 4. 2026 CAPEX Budget 5. NCH Award of Contract	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University	7(2)(h)
<b>New Catered Hall PCG Chair Appointment</b>	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University To protect the privacy of natural persons	7(2)(h) 7(2)(a)
<b>People &amp; Culture Committee</b> 1. Report – business of Committee 2. Minutes from meeting on 7 November 2025 3. Q3 Wellbeing Report and Dashboard	To protect the privacy of natural persons	7(2)(a)
<b>Awards Committee</b> 1. Report – business of Committee 2. Minutes from meeting on 20 November 2025	To protect the privacy of natural persons	7(2)(a)
<b>Finance Report</b>	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	7(2)(h) 7(2)(j)
<b>LUPJVL Statement of Corporate Intent</b>	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University	7(2)(h)

*I move also that:* Prof Chad Hewitt (Provost), Prof Merata Kawharu (Deputy Vice Chancellor, Māori and Pasifika), Mrs E Rooney (Finance Director), Mrs S Roulston (Chief Operating Officer), Mrs K McEwan (Executive Director People, Culture & Wellbeing), Mr D Lodge (Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Student Life), Tracey Nelson (Bicompliance Manager), Steve Hunter (Health & Safety Manager), Mr Ted Rogers (Chairman, Lincoln University Property Joint Venture Limited), Tumuaki-Takirua Te Awhioraki, and Mr Nathaniel Heslop (Council Secretary), be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge of the various matters being discussed. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed, is relevant to those matters because of their involvement in the development of reports to Council on these matters.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**17. Closure and next Meeting**

The Pro-Chancellor led the closing karakia.

The meeting closed at 12:51pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 9:00am and will be held in Memorial Hall, Ivey West, Lincoln University Campus

CONFIRMED THIS 24<sup>th</sup> DAY OF February 2026

**JANICE FREDRIC  
CHANCELLOR**